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JULY 1991

EPIC COMICS®

Clive Barker's NIGHT BREED™

WAKE
THE
DEAD
DEMONS
DINOSAURS AND
DEVASTATION!

OBI

Clive Barker's
NIGHT BREED

THE BLASPHEMERS
PART FIVE

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LISTEN TO THIS
NIGHTTIME
LULLABY.



YOU WON'T
FIND IT ON
ANY BILL-
BOARD
CHART--



--OR COVERED
BY ANY GARAGE
OR BAR BAND.



THE LYRICS
BITE...



...AND IT'S GOT
NO BEAT TO
SPEAK OF...

...BUT YOU CAN
DANCE TO IT.

HELPS IF YOU'RE
DEAD, OF COURSE.



SON OF
A BITCH!
IT WORKS,
BOONE!



COURSE IT DOES,
LORI-LOVE!

WATCH YOUR
CHORDING-- THAT
SEEMS TO BE BRING-
ING UP THE BONES
WITH THE MOST MEAT
STILL ATTACHED!

THE
REST OF
YOU--GET
TO THE
TRUCK
WITH
GUIDO!













WHAT'S EVERYBODY THINK?
HOW MUCH TIME WE
WE GOT?

NOT MUCH...



... SOME OF THEIR
LIMELY RESOLVE IS
WEAKENING, BUT
THE NATURAL IS
GOADING THEM
ON.

THEY CONTINUE IN
THEIR BLASPHEMOUS
BELIEF THAT YOUR
DEATH WILL ALLOW THEM
TO PURSUE EXISTENCES
OF FLESH-EATING
SIN.



THEN THEY'RE JUST
GONNA HAVE TO DO
PENANCE, AREN'T
THEY?

EVERYONE
KEEP A LOW
PROFILE...

ENGINE
GREASE!
HOW'M I
EVER GONNA
GET THIS
CLEAN?

THIS IS SO
HUMILIATING.



HEY, YOU!
YOU THERE!

YOU CAN'T
LEAVE THAT WRECK
THERE-- THAT'S A
FIRE ZONE!



WHATCHYU THINK?
VALLEY FORGE MALL'S
YOUR PERSONAL
PARKIN' LOT?



NO
RESPECT FOR
AUTHORITY...





ENOUGH
ALREADY--
ENOUGH!
LET'S GET
IT OVER WITH,
THEN--EVEN
IF IT'S JUST
TO SHUT YOU
UP!



HELLO? A
MOMENT?



WHAT-- WELL, WITH ALL
THE RUNNING ABOUT OF
LATE, I FEAR I HAVE BEEN
REMISSE IN EXPRESSING
A BASIC TRUTH--

--WELL, MORE
A FEELING...
THAT IS...

S'OKAY,
ORAL... HELLO
LIKES OLDER
MONSTERS!



YOU--
YOU DO?

UH-HUH: I SEE
YOU LOOKING, AND
HELLO'S NOT AS
DUMB AS SHE
LOOKS!

NOT
ALL THE
TIME,
ANYWAY...



C'MON,
LORI!

JUST WHAT
EXACTLY IS IT
YOU'VE GOT
IN MIND,
BOONE?



HOT LIXX

A NEW SET
OF STRINGS!

IF THAT OLD JOB
DID WHAT IT DID
SOMETHING WITH
SOME EXTRA KICK
SHOULD REALLY
SHOW MULDER
AND HIS CREW!











... WHETHER IT'S
SEARCHING FOR
A SAFE HAVEN
FOR ALL THE TRIBES
OF THE MOON ...



... OR JUST GUIDING ONE
OF THE STRAYING FLOCK
BACK INTO THE PAGAN
FOLD.



BUT STRAY TOO FAR...
AND WHAT BECOMES
OF THE FLOCK, THEN?



I TOLD YOU
CABAL --

LET IT GO, CABAL.
SUCH THOUGHTS
CAPER-- YOU DIDN'T
CHOOSE THIS
MCKERY OF LIFE,
THIS MANTLE OF
MIDNIGHT MESSIAH.



YOU WERE HUMAN ONCE, AARON
BOONE -- BE TRUE TO YOUR PAST.
BETRAY THE DARK --

-- IF THIS IS
THE WAY I HAVETA
STAY THEN I CAN BE
ANY KINDA MONSTER
I WANNA BE!



HEARD THIS
ROUTINE FROM
YOU BEFORE,
MULCIBER --

ANY KIND!
I DON'T HAVETA
LISTEN TO YOU
OR BADDHMET
OR --

-- AND IN DOING SO
FORGET EVERY NIGHT-
BREED WHOSE MOONLIT
HOPES AND DREAMS
LIE WITH THE PROMISE
OF YOUR BEING... OF
PROPHECY - MADE-TRUE.



YOU
CAN'T TELL
ME HOW
TO --

-- THIS
TIME I
FIND OUT
WHAT IT'S
ABOUT!

THE WITCH - WOMAN
NICKAIVEN'S VOICE
WHISPERS HARK OF
THE POTENTIAL WITHIN
THE SEED, THE POWER
TO BRING TOGETHER --

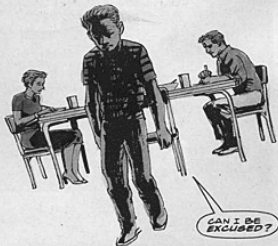


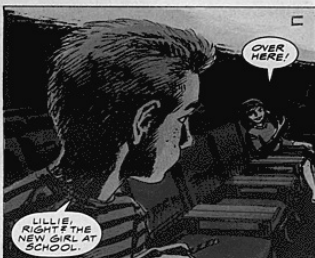
AARRRGH!

LET'S SEE
WHAT IT IS
YOU GOT
HIDING!

"LET THAT SECRET
SIDE OUT. LET YOUR
FRIENDS GET A TRUE
LOOK INTO YOUR SELLS
-- AND YOU'VE BOUND
THEM TO YOU AND YOU
TO THEM WITH A FORCE
THAT CAN'T BE BROKE!"

























INDEED AT OUR AGE, ONE TAKES ROMANCE WHERE ONE CAN FIND IT!

AND IT'S GOOD TO HAVE A FAMILY OF SORTS AROUND FOR TATER.

UNTIL YOU FIND A HAVEN FOR ALL--THIS CAN BE A HAVEN FOR SOME.



!HICCUPS!

FIXED THE STILL!

YEP! FIXED THE SHTILL!



WE'LL STAY FOR AWHILE WITH THE WITCH-- BUT NARGISSE AND GUIDO AND I WILL BE THERE AS YOU NEED US, MY FRIEND.

DON'T BOTHER YOURSELF, KINSKI! ...I GOT MORE OUT OF IT THAN YOU MIGHT THINK.

I'M ONLY SORRY THIS ROAD I SET YOU ON PROVIDED NO CLEAR WAY TO THE PROMISED LAND.



LISTEN TO THIS LULLABY OF THE DELIVERER, CABAL...

...ITS LYRICS OF MAGNIFICENT SHRIEKS AND TRIUMPHANT HOWLS...

...A BEAT FIT ONLY FOR THE DANCE MACABRE.

GOODBYE, BOONE.



BUT IT'S A SONG THAT HELPS THE DECEASED REST EASY IN WHAT PASSES FOR LIFE...

MY NAME'S CABAL, LITTLE ONE.

'BOUT FRIGGIN' TIME.



...GIVES THE LOST TRIBES OF THE NIGHTBREED CAUSE FOR FAITH...

...AND MAKES THE DARK NIGHT JUST THAT LITTLE BIT BRIGHTER.

KID'S GOT A LIP ON HER.

BUT JUST A LITTLE AFTER ALL THIS IS THE UNDEAD WE'RE TALKING HERE.

BREEDING *ground*

This isn't normal.

Most of you—those faithful enough to have followed our bi-monthly grimoire this far, through its salacious storylines and off-erratic schedule know this page's function is normally as an Epic house ad. Many of you look forward to paging through the backs of each of our imprints in this format to catch a glimpse at the other Epic titles now here or soon-to-come. Some of you may have even gotten so used to just twenty-eight pages of *Nightbreed* that the thought of another fear fraught page might send you cringing back under the covers in *Heavy Monster Overload*. Considering the rollercoaster ride you've just been through in the *Blasphemers* storyline, you've probably earned an HMO reprieve.

Well, this ain't it.

Others of you have been requesting, crying, screaming and demanding a page where you could publicly exorcise your personal requesting, crying, screaming and demanding demons; a simple letters page, something many of you have come to expect.

This ain't that either.

This book is about changing what you're used to; challenging what you know. So, as of this issue, we're beginning an experiment in dramatic sweeping change that promises to be far and away from what you expect in a reader's forum. Get used to one ad page less, as we usher in the third year of *Clive Barker's Nightbreed*. Welcome to the *Breeding Ground*.

This isn't going to be just any old letters page. You'll seldom find any inordinate hyping. You'll seldom see glib, unresponsive answers to serious difficult questions and comments on the work inside these pages. And you'll only find serious comments, criticism, ideas and

suggestions, gripes and groans addressed, stamped sealed and delivered back to you directly within a few issues.

But that's not all this page is for.

In future months, we hope to give you some insight—and input—into the creative processes that go into this book. From time to time we'll have comments and criticism from those unfortunate individuals responsible for bringing you the horrors contained in these pages, month after (every second) month. Comments from such talents as Mark "Aliens" Nelson on a two-part story of renegade *Nightbreed* in the jungles of South America. We'll have the low-down on the upcoming appearance (please don't tell anyone—it's a desperate secret that we're trying not let get too far out) and the resurrection of the incredible *Rawhead Rex* in the pages of *Nightbreed*. We'll have previews of *Nightbreed* pages by incredible talents from the inimitable Kelley Jones, to a second stint by the bodaciously bawdy Brett Blevins. And we'll have some insightful commentary by the regular writer on this book, D.G. Chichester.

And that's not the half of it.

Also featured in and on this page will be previews of some of the other upcoming Epic Clive Barker projects, including *Jihad*, the *Hellraiser*/*Nightbreed* crossover, and the three-issue adaptation of Clive Barker's *Weaveworld*. We'll feature bits of the now bi-monthly *Hellraiser*, as well as some special upcoming *Hellraiser* companion books. We won't even bother going into the upcoming *Hellraiser* Poster Book—unless you insist. And we'll keep all our secret ideas for upcoming Clive Barker projects on hold until we hear your ideas on upcoming projects. It's all material that

we're extremely excited about here, and we are so lousy at keeping secrets we really have to share it with someone, and.... but we digress.

For now, let's suffice it to say this page will hold a great deal more than you're used to seeing in a three column width, seven point type in the back of a comic. And it'll hold a lot more than we've mentioned here, if that be your will. And if you're especially responsive and provocative, we may even be able to provide personal commentary from Mr. Barker himself.

Remember it's your page. But it's *his* book.

We'll leave you with two thoughts for now. First, plan on being outside your store as it opens in exactly two months from now for issue #11. It's the first of a two-parter by writer D.G. Chichester, one of the most overworked comic writers of the decade, with spectacular artwork by the aforementioned Mark Nelson—a sample of which appears below. And as spectacular as it is, is only a prelude of Things To Come.

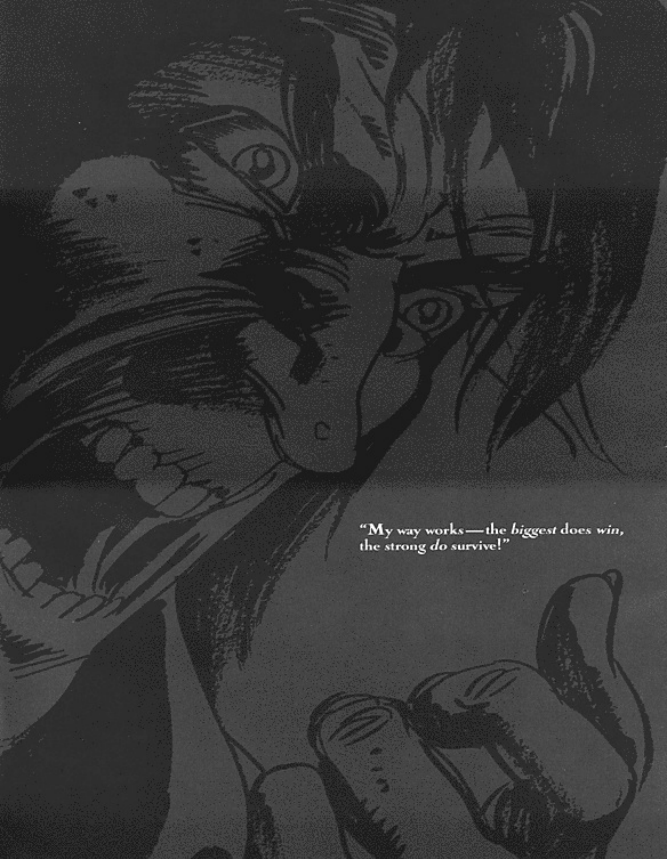
Second, don't plan on rambling on for the full page as we've taken the liberty of doing this time out. Next time, it's on you. Take some time out now and give us some commentary—you decide the length and subject. The success (or lackings) of the *Blasphemers* storyline might be a good place to start. And a deluge of demands for a monthly *Nightbreed* would be a great place to end up.

But again, it's up to you.

Let us know what you think.

Send all correspondence to:
BREEDING GROUNDS
c/o EPIC COMICS
387 PARK AVENUE SOUTH
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**"My way works—the *biggest* does win,
the strong *do* survive!"**